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Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-12 ADP-00 L-03 DODE-00 CIAE-00 PM-09

INR-09 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 GAC-01 USIA-12

MBFR-03 SAJ-01 SY-07 AF-10 EB-11 DOTE-00 CAB-09

COME-00 FAA-00 SS-14 NSC-10 /154 R

DRAFTED BY S/ CCT: AHMEYER: GMD
3/24/73 EXT 21030
APPROVED BY S/ CCT: AHMEYER
EUR/ RPM: ESTREATOR
L/ UNA: RJBETTAUER
IO/ UNP: MROTHENBERG(SUBS. PARA 5)
L/ AF: BKHUFFMAN (SUBS. PARA 5)
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R 242012 Z MAR 73
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION NATO
INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 054967

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, XF, XG
SUBJECT: NATO CONSULTATIONS ON TERRORISM

1. NAC HAS SCHEDULED ANOTHER ROUND OF CONSULTATIONS RE TERRORISM FOR APRIL 4 IN BRUSSELS PER US PROPOSAL. DEPT WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSIES IN NATO CAPITALS APPROACHING APPROPRIATE LEVELS OF HOST GOVERNMENTS TO URGE HIGH- LEVEL EXPERT PARTICIPATION.

2. AMERICAN DELEGATION WILL INCLUDE:

A. AMBASSADOR ARMIN MEYER, CHAIRMAN OF THE WORKING GROUP OF CABINET COMMITTEE TO COMBAT TERRORISM.

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B. EDWARD L. MORGAN, ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY FOR ENFORCEMENT, TARIFF AND TRADE AFFAIRS, AND OPERATIONS; OR HIS DEPUTY, JAMES B. CLAWSON.

C. RONALD J. BETTAUER, DEPARTMENT OF STATE, OFFICE OF THE LEGAL ADVISER. (L/ UNA, SPECIALIST ON UN ITEMS RE TERRORISM.)

3. AGENDA AS PRESENTLY PROJECTED INCLUDES: (A) HOW TO

DISCOURAGE SUPPORT BY ARAB GOVERNMENTS OF ARAB TERRORIST ORGANIZATIONS; (B) STATUS OF EFFORTS TO DRAFT INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS; AND (C) CONSIDERATION OF NATO SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORT ON INTELLIGENCE EXCHANGES. US DELEGATION HAS LET OTHER DELEGATIONS KNOW THAT WE HOPE ALSO TO DISCUSS NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN PHYSICAL SECURITY.

4. WE BELIEVE ANTI- SKYJACKING MEASURES AND LETTER BOMBS WERE FULLY COVERED IN DECEMBER CONSULTATIONS AND EXPERTS IN THOSE FIELDS NOT RPT NOT NEEDED THIS TIME. WITH REGARD TO SPECIAL COMMITTEE ITEM ON AGENDA, US DELEGATION WILL, OF COURSE, PARTICIPATE (PROBABLY VIA LEGATT FROM PARIS WHO BEEN INVOLVED WITH SPECIAL COMMITTEE). AT SAME TIME, WE REALIZE THAT THIS IS HIGHLY SENSITIVE SUBJECT WHICH SECURITY AGENCIES OF MOST COUNTRIES PREFER HANDLED MORE VIA BILATERAL RELATIONSHIPS THAN IN GROUP MEETINGS WHERE LEAKAGE IS MATTER OF CONCERN.

5. ON INTERNATIONAL SIDE, IT WOULD BE OUR HOPE TO PLACE MOST EMPHASIS ON DRAFT CONVENTION ON PROTECTION OF DIPLOMATS SCHEDULED FOR COMPLETION AT NEXT UNGA (SEE SEPTEL). WE STRONGLY PREFER TO AVOID DISCUSSION OF MATTERS SCHEDULED FOR AUGUST- SEPTEMBER ICAO MEETINGS. BASIC DIFFERENCES REGARDING SUBSTANCE AND STRATEGY EXIST AMONG NATO ALLIES, AND WE THINK THESE MATTERS CAN BE PURSUED MORE FRUITFULLY FROM OUR POINT OF VIEW THROUGH BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS AND IN ICAO CONTEXT. WE ARE, OF COURSE, READY TO DISCUSS STRATEGY FOR UN AD HOC COMMITTEE ON TERRORISM. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT VINCI (WEO) GROUP SCHEDULED TO CONSIDER THIS MATTER MARCH 26, AND AS PER PAPER TO BE CIRCULATED CONTAINED SEPTEL, WE EXPECT CONCONFIDENTIAL

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TINUING CONSULTATIONS ON THIS SUBJECT IN NEW YORK.

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6. ON ARAB TERRORISM ITEM, OUR PURPOSE WILL BE SECURE AS MUCH MEANINGFUL SUPPORT AS POSSIBLE FROM NATO GOVERNMENTS FOR INFLUENCING ARAB GOVERNMENTS TO CURB TERRORIST ORGANIZATIONS. EQUALLY IMPORTANT WILL BE SEEKING TO STRENGTHEN ATTITUDES AND PROGRAMS WHICH NATO GOVERNMENTS TAKE IN THEIR OWN COUNTRIES AGAINST TERRORISTS. WE WOULD HOPE, FOR EXAMPLE, TO CULTIVATE SUPPORT FOR TOUGH NO- BLACKMAIL POLICY HICH USG BELIEVES IS ONLY WAY ARAB TERRORISM EPIDEMIC CAN BE BROUGHT UNDER CONTROL.

7. RE PHYSICAL SECURITY, IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE TO EXCHANGE IDEAS AS TO MEASURES WHICH BEING TAKEN TO ASSURE PROTECTION AGAINST TERRORIST ACTIVITIES. THIS SUBJECT WAS WELL COVERED IN DECEMBER, BUT SINCE THAT TIME ALL OF US HAVE HAD ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCES WITH TERRORIST THREAT AND NEW LESSONS HAVE BEEN DRAWN WHICH SHOULD BE SHARED.

8. CONCERNING FORMAT FOR CONSULTATIONS, WE ASSUME SYG WILL WISH TO HAVE KICK- OFF AT REGULAR NAC MEETING MORNING APRIL 4, AND WE WOULD BE PREPARED TO MAKE STATEMENT IF HE SO DESIRES. IF SYG' S PREVIOUS PATTERN IS FOLLOWED, EXPERTS WOULD THEN CONVENE AFTER COFFEE BREAK. WE WOULD THINK REST OF MORNING COULD BE DEVOTED TO FRANK DISCUSSION OF FIRST ITEM, I. E., ARAB TERRORIST OPERATIONS AND HOW TO DEAL WITH THEM.

9. FROM OUR VIEWPOINT, PRECEDENT SET IN DECEMBER FOR DIVIDING AFTERNOON SESSIONS WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE, I. E., ONE GROUP TO DEAL WITH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS, AND OTHER TO DEAL WITH PHYSICAL SECURITY SUBJECTS.

10. AMERICAN DELEGATION WOULD EXPECT ALSO TO BE AVAILABLE MORNING APRIL 5. CONSULTATIONS ON BILATERAL BASIS WITH REPS FROM CERTAIN COUNTRIES MIGHT BE USEFUL. ADDITIONALLY, IF MISSION AGREES, A LESS FORMAL GIVE- AND-TAKE, PERHAPS ASSOCIATED WITH LUNCHEON OR DINNER, WITH EXPERTS FROM LIKE- MINDED COUNTRIES MIGHT PROVE FRUITFUL, I. E., WITH BRITISH, CANADIANS, BELGIANS, DUTCH,
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ETC., BUT EXCLUDING COUNTRIES WHO SENT NO EXPERTS, E. G., PRESUMABLY FRENCH, LUXEMBOURG, ICELAND, ETC. POINT IS THAT IN STRUCTUAL NATO DISCUSSIONS, TENDENCY IS TOWARD FORMAL INTERVENTIONS WHICH IN OUR JUDGMENT ARE LESS PRODUCTIVE THAN INFORMAL EXCHANGES.

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11. DEPARTMENT IS POUCHING TO BRUSSELS SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS. THEY INCLUDE: (A) RESUME OF WORK OF US CABINET COMMITTEE TO COMBAT TERRORISM; (B) CHRONOLOGY OF KHARTOUM AFFAIR; (C) USG COMMENTS ON UNGA TERRORISM RESOLUTION; AND (D) CLASSIFIED MATERIAL DESCRIBING AL- FATAH AND BSO.

12. FOR BONN: WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR EXPRESSING TO DR. STROTHMANN. AMB. MEYER' S HOPE THAT DESPITE SHORT NOTICE HE WILL BE ABLE TO COME. ROGERS

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a
*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 MAR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE054967
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: AHMEYER: GMD
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: SECSTATE WASHDC
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730338/aaaaihwz.tel
Line Count: 183
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 FEB 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02-Aug-2001 by boyleja>; APPROVED <14-Sep-2001 by boyleja>; WITHDRAWN <18-Oct-2001 by willialc, 3.4.X6>; RELEASED <25 FEB 2002 by golinofr>; APPROVED <25 FEB 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> jms 971230
Subject: NATO CONSULTATIONS ON TERRORISM
TAGS: PINS, XF, XG
To: NATO
USUN NEW YORK
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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